



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

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News Release

ICE ARRESTS AWOL BRITISH SOLDIER

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement special agents arrested a British soldier who is absent without leave from his military unit Thursday for violating United States immigration law.

Tristram Bentley, 26 and a citizen of the United Kingdom, was arrested in Hope, Rhode Island on immigration violations.

Bentley entered the United States July 31 under the Visa Waiver Program, which enables citizens of certain countries to temporarily enter the country without a visa. Bentley was granted temporary admission for 90 days. Bentley, as noted on his arrival/departure record, was required by law to depart the country no later than Oct. 29.

Investigation by ICE determined that Bentley is AWOL from the British Army. British authorities have been notified of Bentley's arrest.

“A primary mission of ICE is to restore integrity to our nation’s immigration system,” said ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Robin M. Avers, who leads ICE investigations throughout New England. “ICE will continue to investigate individuals suspected of violating immigration law, including those who attempt to exploit 'good neighbor' policy like the Visa Waiver Program in order to hide out in the United States.”

Bentley is being detained at the Donald Wyatt Detention Facility in Central Falls, Rhode Island, and will remain there until he is deported.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.